

CLAIMS:

1. A method of call admission control for a continuous stream of data in packet switched networks including at least two local area networks communicating with one another across a connecting network, the method comprising the steps of:
 - a) determining success rates of previous calls from a first local area network to a second local area network;
 - b) deciding to drop the call attempt based on the success rates of previous calls.
2. A method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
 - c) determining current packet loss rate for calls from the first local area network to the second local area network; and
 - d) deciding to drop the call attempt based on the current packet loss rate.
3. A method according to claim 2, further comprising the step of:
 - e) deciding to drop the call attempt based on the current packet loss rate and the success rates of previous calls.
4. A method according to claim 2 or 3, wherein step d) includes the steps of:
 - f) transmitting a burst of trial data from a first node in the first local area network through the connecting network to a second node in the second local area network;
 - g) reflecting the burst of trial data received at the second node back to the first node;
 - h) receiving the reflected burst of trial data at the first node through the connecting network; and
 - i) comparing the reflected burst of trial data to the transmitted burst of trial data to determine whether transmission of a continuous

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stream of data can be initiated from the first node in the first local area network to the second node in the second local area network.